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Security Council

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Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 6125th meeting of the Security Council, held on 15 May 2009, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation in Somalia", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council reiterates its previous resolutions and Presidential Statements on Somalia, in particular its resolution 1863, which reaffirmed the Djibouti Peace Agreement as representing the basis for a lasting resolution of the conflict in Somalia.

"The Security Council reaffirms its support for the Transitional Federal Government as the legitimate authority in Somalia under the Transitional Federal Charter and condemns the recent renewal in fighting led by al-Shabaab and other extremists, which constitutes an attempt to remove that legitimate authority by force. The Council demands that opposition groups immediately end their offensive, put down their arms, renounce violence and join reconciliation efforts.

"The Security Council urges the international community to provide its full support to the Transitional Federal Government in order to strengthen the National Security Force and the Somali Police force, reiterates its support for AMISOM, expresses its appreciation for the contribution of troops by the Governments of Burundi and Uganda, and condemns any hostilities towards AMISOM.

"The Security Council expresses its concern at the loss of life and the worsening humanitarian situation arising out of the renewed fighting, and calls on all parties to abide by their obligations under international humanitarian law, in particular to respect the security of civilians, humanitarian workers and AMISOM personnel.

"The Security Council also expresses its concern over reports that Eritrea has supplied arms to those opposing the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia in breach of the UN arms embargo, and calls on the Sanctions Monitoring Group to investigate.

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"The Security Council reiterates its support for the political process outlined in the Transitional Federal Charter, which provides a framework for reaching a lasting political solution in Somalia. The ongoing attempts to take power by force can only delay the political process and prolong the suffering of the Somali people."